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Attorney Docket No: 0492611-0454

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kisiday, et al. Examiner: Naff, D.
Serial No.: 09/778,200 Art Unit: 1651
Filing Date: February 6, 2001
Title: PEPTIDE SCAFFOLD ENCAPSULATION OF TISSUE CELLS
AND USES THEREOF

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

OFFICE ACTION RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

This Response to Office Action is filed in response to the Office Action mailed April 8, 2003, rejecting claims 1-8 of the above-referenced patent application. The cited references are Kisiday, *et al.*, A New Self-Assembling Peptide Gel for Cartilage Tissue Engineering: Chondrocyte Encapsulation and Matrix Production, International Cartilage Repair Society, Sweden (abstract) (2000); U.S. Patent No. 6,129,761; Holmes, *et al.*, *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.* 97:6728-6733 (2000); U.S. Patent No. 5,955,343; and Zhang, *et al.*, *Biomaterials* 16:1385-1393). The following amendments and remarks remove all grounds for rejection of the application, thereby placing it in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper. As indicated there, please amend claim 7 and please add new claims 19-32. No new matter is added by the amendments.

Remarks begin on page 6 of this paper.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313
on 10-8-03.
Sandra Saccoccia